

GOFF'S GAFF

Is Still in Use and is Pulling in the Big Game.

CAPTAIN STRAUSS ON THE RACK

And Some Very Plain Questions Asked Him by Mr. Goff.

THE LEXOW COMMITTEE'S SESSION

Yesterday Almost as Interesting as on Other Days of the Past Week--Indications That the Investigation is Leading in the Direction of the Highest Officials--Dr. Parkhurst Indignant Because Superintendent Byrnes Has Not Already Been Placed on the Stand--The Creeden Matter Again.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.--Policeman William J. Mooney, formerly attached to Captain Creeden's command, to-day testified before the Lexow committee that Rappenhagen had told him that ex-Assemblyman Martin and Police Commissioner Voorhis were each to receive \$5,000 of the \$15,000 paid by Captain Creeden, to secure his appointment. The remaining \$5,000 Rappenhagen said was for himself.

Rev. Dr. Parkhurst was present and full of indignation because of the failure up to this time to call Superintendent Byrnes to the witness stand.

Before the session Mr. Goff and Senator Lexow had a conference outside the court room. When they entered the room Dr. Parkhurst held a short but earnest consultation with Mr. Goff.

Police Captain Strauss, like Captain Allaire, who testified before the committee yesterday and to-day, made a flat denial of all the charges Lawyer Goff hurled against him.

He denied positively that he had ever paid a cent for his appointment as captain, and knew nothing whatever about the collection of blackmail in his precinct.

He admitted having promised to make Policeman Wallerstein, a cousin of his, a ward man if he secured his appointment as captain, and that he had borrowed \$2,000 from that officer a few days before his appointment was made.

From questions asked by Mr. Goff, it was inferred that a plan had been agreed upon to check the efforts of Goff to get up higher by taking refuge, either in the denial or apparent loss of memory.

Mrs. Strauss, wife of the captain, was among the witnesses examined to-day. She said she had not spoken to her husband regarding the testimony she was to give, and denied that she owned any stock bonds. She identified Policeman Wallerstein as a relative of her husband.

One of the witnesses to-day was W. S. Harrison, a builder.

He testified that in 1891 and 1892 he built the Morris building. He constructed a vault there and bridged it. Wardman Burns visited him. Captain McLaughlin was in command of the precinct, the Old Slip. Burns told the witness that he would have to pay for the privilege of occupying the street. Witness refused, and a few days later his foreman was arrested and arraigned in the Tombs, where the case was dismissed on presentation of the building permit. Burns again called on Harrison after the dismissal of the foreman's case. Burns said, in reply to the witness' questions, that the arrest was a mistake; but that if Harrison would pay the money no further mistakes would occur.

"Did he mention any sum?" asked Mr. Goff.

"Yes, it was \$250."

"And you finally paid it?"

"Yes. I went with Burns to the Old Slip station and there paid the sergeant at the desk \$250."

"Was this in the open room or the private office?"

"In his private room."

When Captain Strauss was called Mr. Goff asked:

"You are the original pantata?"

"I believe so."

Witness was asked whether he knew Officer Wallen, who was in the court room. He did. Wallen then left the room, under instructions.

Witness acknowledged that he sent Officer Leonard away from the polls on election day in 1893, and ordered him to watch a "fence."

"You relieved Officer Leonard because he was doing his duty didn't you?"

"No, I relieved him so he could get his breakfast."

"Do you remember that in '92 Superintendent Byrnes said if the men did not obey his orders and leave the orders of President Martin alone he would take away their buttons from them?"

"I don't remember."

The captain remembered only the instructions he received at the time. No feature of the altercation between the superintendent and the commissioner had been impressed on his memory.

William J. Mooney told of a conversation he had with Captain Creeden in reference to seeing Rappenhagen. Mooney called on Rappenhagen about Creeden's appointment.

"When 'Repp' told me," continued Mooney, "that Wiegand was to be made a captain I agreed to raise the ante from \$12,000, the amount that Wiegand had offered to subscribe, to \$15,000. 'Repp' said: 'That's good. Martin lost several thousand dollars in his race for coroner and I lost some money, and this \$15,000 will be \$5,000 for me, \$5,000 for Martin and \$5,000 for Voorhis, which will just pay election expenses.' After that 'Repp' went to police headquarters to see Martin and afterward told me that the appointment could be arranged. I reported this to Captain Creeden and told him I could do anything to help him I would be glad to do it. He told me to see some of his friends about raising the \$15,000 and I did so, and the money was raised. Afterward the captain was appointed. That's all I know about it."

During the afternoon, Captain Strauss was recalled, and during his examination Mr. Goff asked severely:

"Do you not know that a mountain of evidence has been introduced here

to show that your wardman did collect for you from the last houses?"

"No, I did not. He never did any collecting for me."

"Now, do you not know that you are lying? Do you not know that a man of your ordinary intelligence would never have been appointed by John McClave unless he got paid for it?"

"I never paid for mine."

"And you are a monument to the fact that McClave did appoint one man, a captain, without being paid for it?"

"I guess I am."

The witness then went on to state that he borrowed \$2,000 from his cousin, Wallerstein just a few days before his appointment, just how long he did not know.

"Don't you know that you borrowed this \$2,000 to have in case they 'raised the ante,' as they did in Creeden's case?"

"No, I do not."

Senator Lexow at this point informed the witness of the fact that if he did confess anything, the committee would protect him, and if he did not tell the truth, he was subject to the full penalty for perjury.

Captain Strauss shortly afterwards was excused for the day.

AN AWFUL CRIME

Discovered After the Victim Had Been Dead Ten Days--Brutal Murder of Mrs. Matson at Topeka.

TOPEKA, Kas., Dec. 20.--The body of Mrs. A. D. Matson, stiff and cold, lying in a pool of her own blood, was discovered in her home at Fifteenth and Monroe streets, at 3:30 this afternoon. To all appearances the woman had been dead about ten days.

It is undoubtedly a case of cold-blooded murder, with robbery as the incentive. Mrs. Matson lived alone, and it was generally supposed she had considerable money about the house. A criminal assault had preceded the horrible murder.

The only person who seems to know anything about it is a deaf and dumb colored man, named George Knight, who saw two men, probably on the evening of the 11th, enter the window of the murdered woman's house and he afterwards saw them run away.

No intelligible account can be arrived at from Knight except through his brother, who is the only person who can understand him. The two will be brought together to-morrow at the coroner's inquest. The first inkling of the murder was made known this afternoon by a milk boy, who had noticed the can of milk he left on Mrs. Nelson's step ten days ago had been untouched. He immediately made known his fears to the police and an investigation followed. Officers dispatched to the scene were unable to gain admittance, and, breaking in the rear door, soon learned the cause thereof. In a little back room, lying on her back in a pool of blood long since dried, lay the murdered woman. Two sacks of potatoes had been rudely thrown over her head, while a bundle of rags and old clothes half covered her body.

An investigation showed that the most brutal treatment had been dealt the woman before her life had been taken. Her clothes were thrown up over her head, and clotted blood held them to the floor. The entire top of her head was crushed in, evidently accomplished by some heavy, blunt instrument. She lay on her back, with her arms at her side, her head turned to the right, her right limb straightened out and the other drawn up a little.

Mrs. Matson was a member of the Topeka Equal Suffrage Association, and a prominent suffrage worker. For many years she was a member of the city board of education from the Fifth ward and took an active interest in the city schools. She was at one time a city teacher and was very well known locally. She was generally supposed to have considerable money, and owned five or six houses on the east side. Her husband left her four or five years ago and took up a homestead in California, where he has since lived.

SENSATIONAL CHARGES

Intended to Defeat the Confirmation of Hon. Charles Clark as District Judge.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Dec. 20.--The charges communicated to Senator Harris against Charles D. Clark, appointed to succeed D. M. Key as United States judge for the east and middle district of Tennessee, come from W. G. McAdoo, a young man in the brokerage business in New York, who formerly resided in this city and was associated in the practice of law with J. H. Barr. The charges are that Mr. Clark's law firm--Clark and Brown, accepted employment from parties having conflicting interests in the foreclosure proceedings against Chattanooga Union Railway Company.

Judge D. M. Key, the retiring judge and ex-postmaster general, says he is entirely familiar with this suit, which is in his court, and that there is nothing improper in the position or action of any attorney in it, and has so wired Senator Harris.

Henry O. Ewing, the master in chancery in this case, says he is acting for them. Mr. Ewing has so wired Senator Harris.

Mr. Brown, Mr. Clark's partner, says that he is responsible for everything done by his firm in this case, and that he is willing to stand by that record.

Irwin Arrested.

PITTSBURGH, PA., Dec. 20.--George M. Irwin, the discretionary pool operator, was arrested this afternoon for contempt of court in refusing to turn over to the receiver his books and accounts.

This arrest, however, has no direct bearing on the case against him on the charge of defrauding his depositors. His reason for not putting his books in the hands of the receiver was that the decision of the common pleas judge had been appealed to the supreme court and that this appeal acted as a stay of proceedings.

The Empress Still Alive.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.--The World prints a dispatch from Minister Denby, at Peking, saying there is no truth in the report recently printed in some American papers that Yo Ho Na La, the young wife of the emperor of China, had committed suicide.

Lavigne's Case.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 20.--The case of Lavigne and others held for the killing of Andy Bowen was called to-day before Judge Aucoin, but owing to the absence of material witnesses, the case went over until January 4.

TWO STATUES

Unveiled in the National Capital Hall of Statuary.

DANIEL WEBSTER AND GEN. STARK.

Their Marble Images Presented by the State of New Hampshire and Formally Accepted by Both Houses of Congress--The Ceremonies in the House and Senate--The Latest Additions to the National Collection of Memorial Figures--Other Washington News.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.--The unveiling that has concealed the statues of Daniel Webster and General John Stark which have been placed in the extreme north end of statuary hall in the national capitol as the gift of the people of the state of New Hampshire, was quietly removed at noon to-day, and the public was for the first time permitted to look upon these latest additions to the national collection of memorial figures.

The unveiling ceremony was as simple as it was possible to make it and consisted in lifting from the marble columns the shrouds of canvas with which they were covered. There were, however, quite an assemblage of persons including Governor Smith, of New Hampshire, and staff, in the hall when the veil was cast aside.

When the figures were disclosed there was a sound of applause from the New Hampshire men. The face of Webster shows his characteristic vigor, although there is a benignancy not shown in the usual prints and busts from the great orator. He stands erect, clad in old-time dress coat and cravat, his left hand grasping a roll of manuscript. General Stark wears the continental uniform and his right hand holds the hilt of a sheathed sword.

Governor Smith and his staff expressed the greatest satisfaction with both statues. The senate and house both took appropriate action upon the reception of the works of art, but not in the hall where the statues stood. There were appropriate speeches and resolutions, but these proceedings were conducted by each body in its own hall of daily meeting. The list of speakers in the senate included the two senators from New Hampshire, Messrs. Chandler and Gallinger, who spoke impartially of the subjects of both statues; the two Massachusetts senators, Hoar and Lodge, who devoted themselves to the life and service of Webster, and Senators Morgan, Morrill, Davis, Cullom, Platt, and Mitchell, of Oregon, who also spoke of Webster, while Senators Proctor and Dubois confined their remarks to General Stark.

In the house the Stark speeches were made by Messrs. Baker, Powers, Curtis and Blair, and the Webster speeches by Messrs. Blair, Everett, Grout and Baker. The speeches were, without exception, carefully prepared reviews of the lives and characters of the men to whom the day was devoted, and, while there was no apparent effort in any instance to catch the ear by flights of oratory, there were many passages spoken the day which are likely to be quoted in any future life of the revolutionary hero or that of the expounder of the constitution. The galleries were not crowded at any time, but the attendance was larger than on average days, and the attention was of the most respectful character, disturbed only with the close of the speeches by applause. Governor Smith and his staff occupied seats in the senate chamber during the proceedings, and were among the most attentive of the auditors.

In the House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.--The debate on the currency bill was comparatively brief in the house to-day owing to the exercises in connection with the acceptance of the statues of Webster and Stark. Messrs. Sperry, of Connecticut, a Democratic member of the banking and currency committee, and Mr. Brosius, of Pennsylvania, a Republican member, championed and opposed the measure respectively. The former was opposed to various features of the bill, but declared his intention of voting for it if nothing better could be secured.

At the close of the speeches the resolutions thanking New Hampshire for the statues and accepting on behalf of Congress were then adopted.

The speaker laid the Baring case correspondence before the house and then at 5:30 the house adjourned.

In the Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.--Fourteen speeches in connection with the presentation to the United States by the state of New Hampshire of the marble statues of Gen. John Stark and Daniel Webster were delivered in the senate to-day. At their conclusion, 5:40 p. m., an adjournment was taken until Saturday.

The only legislative business of any importance transacted was the passing of a bill making deficiency appropriations for the census bureau and the department of justice for the current fiscal year.

It Was Not True.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.--The sensational story telegraphed from Atlanta last night in which the inference was given that Edward Rembert, the Atlanta deputy collector of internal revenue, Gauger Cox and a night watchman had been removed from office because of their connection with the whitelappers, is declared by Commissioner Miller to be untrue. Rembert was removed, he said, because of incompetency and for no other reason. Cox has not been removed, so far as he knew, and as to the watchman the commissioner knew nothing.

May Not Be True.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.--The report that C. R. Breckinridge would resign his place as minister to Russia cannot be confirmed among those most intimate with him. His cousin, Representative W. C. P. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, had not heard of such action and doubted its correctness.

THE CURRENCY BILL

Chairman Springer Will Introduce a Number of Amendments.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.--A conference was held at the treasury department between Secretary Carlisle and Chairman Springer, of the house committee on banking and currency, relative to amending the Carlisle currency bill now before the house. The subject was gone over very fully, and as a result of the talk Mr. Springer will propose a number of amendments designed to remove some of the objections advanced against the bill. One objection is that under section 7 some banks may be permitted to take a circulation of 90 per cent of their capital stock, while the bill limits circulation to 75 per cent of the capital stock. This would be remedied by requiring the excess, if any, to be retired by deposit of greenbacks under existing provisions of law.

The time in which the banks will be required to comply with the new law may be extended for two years, and the house may fix by amendment the time at a more remote date. The bill will make clear that bill-holders of national bank notes will be protected during the time the old banks are conforming to the new law.

Another amendment will provide that the government will receive the old notes for internal taxes and cancel them, and issue notes under the new law. It is possible that these and other amendments that the Democratic majority of the banking committee may agree upon may be embraced in a substitute, which can be presented before the five-minute debate begins.

Another Currency Bill.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.--Representative Grow, of Pennsylvania, has introduced a bill to amend the national banking act. It authorizes the deposit of legal tenders instead of bonds to secure circulation.

The circulating bank notes are to be exempt from taxation and are to have the same legal tender qualities and the same form of redemption as the old national bank notes.

DOUGLASS PUTNAM DEAD.

A Descendant of the Revolutionary Hero and Secretary of Marietta College Since Its Birth.

MARIETTA, O., Dec. 20.--Douglass Putnam died to-day, aged eighty-six. He was the great-grandson of General Israel Putnam, famous in revolutionary history, and a grandson of General Israel Putnam, who helped settle the Ohio Valley. He has been secretary of Marietta College since its founding in 1835, and signed every diploma ever granted by it.

UNFAVORABLE COMMENT

Caused by Father Roseback's Reference to Sir John Thompson.

QUEBEC, Dec. 20.--There was a solemn service for the repose of the soul of the late Sir John Thompson in St. Patrick's church this morning. The attendance was very large. Rev. Father Roseback, Redemptorist priest in charge of the congregation of St. Patrick, caused much unfavorable comment by saying, after expressing regret at the loss of the deceased: "It is now that Sir John Thompson, if he could come back, would say with his voice from eternity: 'There is only one true religion--that of Christ and the Roman Catholic church. All others are frauds.'"

These words created a decided stir in the mixed audience.

SULLIVAN LOADED.

On One of His Old Time Tears at St. Mary's, Ohio.

ST. MARY'S, OHIO, Dec. 20.--John L. Sullivan landed here to-day loaded. Members of his company groomed him all they could before his appearance before a full house to-night, after which he cut loose again.

While waiting on the depot platform at Lima to-day, Sullivan assaulted Officer Wingate and Express Agent Devoe. The latter ran into his office for his gun, when members of Sullivan's company hustled the pugilist into the car and were soon off. Sullivan started on his spree at Dayton early in the week, and has been uncontrollable to-day.

A FOOL AND A GUN

And Now There Are Two Innocent Children Lying Dead.

TRIOY, ALA., Dec. 20.--As young Jim Bowen was passing Pea River Church school this morning, on his way to hunt turkeys, two little daughters of Zeke Bryant, who were looking out of the school window, waved cheerily to the young man. In play Bowen raised his gun and pointed it at the two little girls. The fowling piece was accidentally discharged and both little girls received fatal wounds from the lead of shot. One was shot in the throat and chest and died in a short while. The other was not expected to live more than a few hours.

McKean's Shortage.

NASHUA, N. H., Dec. 20.--The report of Bank Examiner Dorr, which will be made public to-morrow, shows the shortage of the missing cashier, Frank A. McKean, of the Indian Head National bank, to be \$75,000. There is still no clue to McKean's whereabouts.

BRIEFS FROM THE WIRES.

The cash balance in the treasury yesterday was \$154,740,132.

Ten ships are overdue at San Francisco and 300 lives are at stake upon their fate.

Fire at Napoleonville, La., last night, destroyed seven blocks, including most of the town. Loss, \$125,000.

Ex-governor and United States senator from Tennessee, James L. Alcorn, died yesterday at Eagle's Nest, Miss.

Mrs. Perrine, Mrs. Cleveland's mother, arrived at the white house yesterday from Buffalo on a visit to her daughter and the President.

A special from Defiance, Ohio, says Charles Hart pleaded guilty to murdering the two Good children at Paulding, Ohio, and was sentenced to be hanged on the second Friday in April next.

A mortgage for \$1,000,000 given by the Ohio and Indiana Pipe Line Company and the Natural Gas Company to the Central Trust Company of New York, was filed at Lima, Ohio, yesterday.

BRIESACH'S STORY.

The Accused Man Tells His Story to the Court and Jury.

THE PROSECUTION HAD RESTED

In the Afternoon and Then the Defense's Witnesses Were

EXAMINED BY COLONEL ARNETT

And Handled in Cross-Examination by Prosecutor Howard--Briesach's Story Suffers at the Hands of the Prosecution in Cross-Examination. Probability That the Case May be Brought to a Conclusion To-night. In the Morning Witnesses For the State Were Examined--Large Crowds in Attendance.

Yesterday, the fourth day of the Briesach murder trial, was by far the most exciting of the quartette. The feature of the day was, of course, the examination and cross-examination, late in the afternoon, of the accused man, Louis Briesach. Under the kindly guidance of his counsel, Colonel Arnett, he told a story that at times looked plausible, but when Mr. Howard got his innings he made the man's story look very sick. The accused man's answers to the prosecutor's questions were mostly of an evasive character, and no man, probably, who had made up his mind on the prisoner's guilt was convinced to the contrary after Mr. Howard concluded the cross-examination.

It is thought probable now that the case will be brought to a conclusion this afternoon or evening, unless the argument is longer than it is now supposed it will be. Perhaps a night session this evening will determine Briesach's fate.

THE MORNING SESSION.

Willie Dubler's Testimony Was the Most Important Brought Out.

When the criminal court, Judge Jordan on the bench, convened yesterday morning at 9 o'clock for the continuation of the trial for murder, of Louis Briesach, the number of spectators in the court room was larger than at any of the previous days of the trial, in the morning hour.

At the start young Thomas Waldron, Briesach's step-son, was cross-examined by Colonel Arnett, but nothing important was brought out, and this witness' testimony is the strongest link in the chain that has encircled Briesach.

Willie Dubler, a ten-year-old boy, who lives in a house adjoining the Briesach place, was the next witness, and his testimony was very strong for the prosecution. From the yard of his home he saw Briesach strike his wife with both the large club and with the whip, exhibited in the case as evidence. The boy fared fairly well under the cross-examination by Col. Arnett, getting mixed at but one point, where he told of seeing the whip used.

Mr. Backus, a next-door neighbor of the Briesachs, was next examined. She said she was not acquainted with the Briesachs and that Mrs. Briesach had spoken to her for the first time on the morning of the murder. Mr. Howard asked what she had said, but to this Colonel Arnett objected. Finally Mr. Howard said that he only wished to bring out the fact that Mrs. Briesach was not intoxicated at that time, and this the witness was allowed to testify to.

Harry Jenkins, the next witness called by the prosecution, testified to being called to go into the house after the murder, by Officer Snyder, and described the scene there. Charles Benter, who also was in the house after the murder, was next called. When he entered the house the body was on the kitchen floor and two boys were playing marbles in the front room.

BRIESACH TESTIFIES

At the Close of the Afternoon Session--The Other Witnesses.

The afternoon session of the criminal court convened at 2 o'clock, and the crowd was still on the increase in point of size. The first witness examined was Mrs. Ritz, who lived in a part of the house occupied by Briesach. She heard the cursing on the morning of the murder, but did not know that anything serious had happened until she saw a number of boys on the fence.

Mrs. Louise Jaeger, who lives in a house adjoining Briesach's on Fifth street, next testified. She said anyone in her back yard could look down into the Briesach yard but not into the house. On the day of the murder Mrs. Jaeger saw Mrs. Briesach sitting on the stone wall in their yard and Briesach was standing near by. At this time she saw Mrs. Sly and a Mrs. Dubler looking at the scene in the Briesach yard from their own yards. She could not hear what the Briesachs said to each other.

Colonel Arnett, as usual, conducted the cross-examination, and the witness went over the same story she had related to Mr. Howard. All she knew, she said, was that Mrs. Briesach was sitting with her head inclined forward and her hair disarranged.

Colonel Arnett--What do you know of Mrs. Briesach's reputation for sobriety about the time we are speaking of?

Mr. Howard--I object.

Judge Jordan--The objection is sustained.

The cross-examination practically brought out nothing new, and the witness does not rank as an important one in the case.

OFFICER SNYDER AGAIN.

The next witness called was Henry Snyder, the police officer. He was handed a small paper package, which he was requested to open. This he did, disclosing a small cloth rag. To Mr. Howard the witness said the rag was used by Briesach to wipe off the club used in the tragedy by Briesach. He identified the paper which enclosed the rag.

Colonel Arnett questioned the witness searchingly on the happenings in connection with the use of the rag by Briesach. Finally the colonel said:

"Now, Mr. Officer, you really don't

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A BOLD BLUFF

That Didn't Work--He Wanted Money and Got in the Jug.

TOLEDO, O., Dec. 20.--At noon a shabbily attired young man entered the Second National Bank and walked directly into the private office of George W. Davis. Inquiring if Mr. Davis was president of the bank, and receiving an affirmative reply, the stranger said: "Well, I am a poor man and want some money."

"You can't have it, sir," replied Mr. Davis.

The stranger pulled from his pocket a round package and holding it above his head shouted: "This is a bomb. If you don't give me money, I'll smash it on the floor, and kill both of us."

Mr. Davis jumped to his feet and ordered the man out of the office. The noise brought the clerk to the rescue and the man was secured and taken to the station house where he is held on suspicion. He gave his name as Sam Brown, born in Russia, but residing in New York City. The bomb was a large orange, wrapped in paper. It was a bluff and did not work.

PITTSBURGH MINERS

Adjourn Without Taking the Responsibility of Advising a Strike.

PITTSBURGH, PA., Dec. 20.--The miners of this district who have been in convention of the past three days adjourned to-day without taking the responsibility of advising a strike against the fifty-five cent scale.

Just before adjournment, resolutions were passed demanding 82 cents for mining; that all dead work shall be paid without any reduction on the present dead work scale; that the screens be made uniform; that miners shall be paid in full in cash every two weeks; that the company stores be abolished and that the check weighman get a number and be paid like the other miners.

The above resolutions are to be presented to their respective locals by the delegates, that a vote may be taken. These votes are to be turned in not later than the 27th inst., and the result will decide the future of the district. In the meantime individual miners can work or not, as they choose, at the 55-cent rate.

THE IRON TRADE.

A New Year and a New Deal the Desire Among Producers.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 20.--The Iron Trade Review this week says:

Recent developments in iron and steel have begotten a unanimous desire among producers for a new year and a new deal. Statistics of pig iron stocks show that coke iron has been piled to an extent beyond expectation, and where makers have been compelled to stay on the market, they have parted with their product at a figure that in some cases has meant a loss on every ton, if books are rightly kept. The largest producer of southern iron has decided to suspend sales calling for long deliveries until there is a change for the better; but this has not prevented other producers north and south from giving buyers the full benefit of the existing weakness. It is conceded by buyers that the prices of the past fortnight are too low to last, and when the more anxious producers are filled up with orders the reaction may be looked for.

The duration of the present prices for crude iron and steel depends on the width of the gap that must be bridged to the railroad buying looked for early in '95. The few strong roads will doubtless lend off as heretofore in placing orders for rails. The ability of other roads to get money for track renewals and the rehabilitation of rolling stock put out of use for lack of funds to repair it, depends on the probabilities of increased earnings.

Bearing on this question the outcome of the pooling bill is an important factor. There are some encouraging signs abroad in portions of the market that are independent of the railroad demand. Structural work will call for large shipments of steel in the first quarter of '95